

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

Steve Bullock
GOVERNOR



Mike Cooney
LT. GOVERNOR

February 25, 2019

Dear Friends:

Please join me in recognizing February 25th through March 1st, 2019 as "National Invasive Species Awareness Week" in the state of Montana.

Invasive species, including aquatic riparian and terrestrial, negatively influence the productivity, value, management and the beauty of land and water resources in our state. The national costs that work to prevent, monitor and control invasive species are approximately \$137 billion annually, and happen to be the second greatest threat to biodiversity.

I commend the great work that the Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC) have done and will continue to do in Big Sky Country. Their committed efforts to combat invasive species help prevent great disruption in industry, agriculture, and tourism. Without the resources and knowledge provided by MISC, invasive species would overrun and threaten our native plants, fish and wildlife and interfere with ecosystems functions.

By participating in the National Invasive Species Awareness Week, Montanans can gain a better knowledge and understanding of the real-world consequences we face from invasive species and take action to protect our state from these threats.

I encourage all Montanans to recognize and participate in "National Invasive Species Awareness Week" from February 25th through March 1st, 2019.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Bullock".

STEVE BULLOCK
Governor